

**TOWN OF GRAND RAPIDS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 11, 2008**

Meeting Place: Grand Rapids Municipal Building, 2410 48th Street South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Present: Chairman Don Bohn, Supervisors Jeanne Fehrman, David Hartjes, and Edward Hellner; Building Inspector Lorelei Fuehrer, Treasurer Kristine Ginter, Clerk Judy McLellan.

Absent:

Excused: Supervisor Arne Nystrom

NOTE: () indicates agenda item of when Board member joined the meeting.

Notices of the meeting were legally posted at The Store in Kellner, the Grand Rapids Garage and the Grand Rapids Municipal Building, and published in the Daily Tribune.

The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Don Bohn.

1. **Approval of February 6th, 12th, and 26th, 2008 Town Board Meetings.** Motion (Hellner/Hartjes) to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried.
2. **Approval/Denial of Contract between Town of Grand Rapids and Town of Seneca for the services of Building Inspector for the issuance of building permits and inspection of any new residential construction in the Town of Seneca.** Supervisor Fehrman asked why the charge for Seneca residents is \$350 and our fee is \$400. Chairman Bohn responded that the Seneca residents would receive only 5 inspections with any additional inspections costing \$60 per inspection. The Town of Grand Rapids residents have unlimited inspections for the \$400. Motion (Hellner/Fehrman) to approve the Building Inspector contract between the Town of Grand Rapids and the Town of Seneca as presented. Motion carried.
3. **Discussion of the proposed changes to Ordinance #24-Building Codes. Changes are to 24.9.5 (12) and 24.2.4 (3).** Building Inspector Lorelei Fuehrer stated that the changes to 24.9.5 (12) are to comply with changes to the state code. Changes to 24.2.4 (3) are to incorporate the wording to put a time limit of 2 years on remodeling projects. Motion (Hartjes/Fehrman) to approve the changes to Ordinance # 24 sections 24.9.5 (12) and 24.2.4 (3) as presented. Motion carried
4. **Discussion of the deletion of Ordinance #22 –Regulating Closing out Sales.** Building Inspector Lorelei Fuehrer stated that Ordinance #22 reverred to State Statutes 66.35 (1) which is no longer in effect. Motion (Fehrman/Hellner) to repeal Ordinance # 22. Motion carried.
5. **Approval/Denial of Building Inspector to attend Building Inspection Conference April 24, 25,26th in Sheboygan, WI.** Motion (Hartjes/Hellner) to approve the Building Inspector to attend Building Inspection Conference April 24, 25,26th in Sheboygan, WI. Motion carried.
6. **Approval/Denial of requests from Acting Police Chief for police officers to attend various training seminars.** Motion (Hellner/Hartjes) to approve all training as requested. Supervisor Fehrman asked the cost and need for the Firearms Instructor training for Officer Wiltse. Officer Krause stated that Wood County offers firearms training to our officers but the times are not always convenient for our officers' shifts. The cost of the training would be only be \$202.00 for seminar but additional costs of 1000 rounds of ammunition, motels, wages, and mileage would raise total cost to around \$1200.00. Vote on motion was taken and unanimously defeated. Motion (Hartjes/Fehrman) to approve the training seminars for FTO Training, Teaching Safe Bicycling, Identity Theft, and Domestic Abuse. Motion carried.
7. **Approval/Denial of amended resolution for election poll workers for the term of 2008-2009.** Motion (Fehrman/Hellner) to approve amended resolution for election poll workers as presented. Motion carried.
8. **Discussion/Approval/Denial of recommendation from Biron-Grand Rapids Feasibility Committee.** Supervisor Fehrman said after comparing the proposal presented to the committee the recommendation of the committee was to use the firm of Ruekert-Mielke to conduct the first phase of the feasibility study. At the Village of Biron's meeting on Monday March 10th it was passed to approve the recommendation of the committee and to commit to a starting cost of \$10,000. Motion

(Hartjes/Hellner) to approve the recommendation of the Biron-Grand Rapids Feasibility Committee to hire Ruekert-Mielke to begin phase 1 of the feasibility study and for the town to commit to a starting cost of \$10,000. Motion carried.

9. **Discussion of Town's portion of 32nd St. project which is being done jointly with Wisc. Rapids.** Supervisor Hellner stated that with the road crew from the town and crew from the city beginning to cut trees along 32nd St. for the upcoming project before the official start date of the project we may not be able to be reimbursed for this cost. The crews are beginning early in order for the utilities to be able to get their work done before the start of the project. Dave Laspa from the city will be checking on getting the crews wages reimbursed through the project. Supervisor Hellner asked if the town wanted to continue at this time in that the wages may not be reimbursed. Chairman Bohn said that we should continue to cut the trees to help keep the project on track. General consensus was to continue.
10. **Approval of February disbursement vouchers.** No questions from the board.
11. **Approval/Denial of Operators License Applications.** Motion (Hartjes/Fehrman) to approve the Operators License Applications as presented. Motion carried.
12. **Monthly Reports from committees and departments.**
 - **Police Department:** Acting Chief of Police Dennis Krause reported that there were 252 calls for service for the month of February. On February 29th Officer Andrew assisted the local Boy Scout troop with an interview and a tour of the police car. This allowed those boy scouts participating to earn a law enforcement merit badge. Pending approval by the Wood County Board, the Sheriff's Department has included us into another consortium grant regarding the laptops in the squads. We may receive another laptop to equip our third squad. Two digital cameras have been ordered as were approved in the budget for this year.
 - **Fire Department:** Chief Bernette reported that there were 12 calls in February consisting of 3-CO, 2-structure, 1-mutual aid, 3-vehicle accidents, 2-RIT calls and 1 power line on trees. Training for the month of March will consist of: Pump operation and DNR Wildland training. At the annual meeting the following officers were re-elected to their positions: 1st Capt. Mark Rusch, 1st Lt. Bob Piatte and 3rd Lt. Jon Heili. The following members were re-appointed to their positions: 1st Asst. Chief Don Bohn, 2nd Asst Chief Neil Heinrich, RIT Lt. Jerry Leggett and Dept Secertary Tom Heiser. The Grand Rapids easter egg hunt has been cancelled for this year due to the amount of snow still with us.
 - **Safety:** Safety Director Scott Bernette reported no lost time injuries for the month of February. Next safety meeting will be on eye protection, held on March 20th.
 - **Public Works:** Supervisor Ed Hellner reported that the 32nd St. project is progressing well. He also stated that the snow removal equipment is holding up well with only minor repairs needed. Chairman Don Bohn reported that the Town of Grand Rapids will begin on Friday March 14th to put up posting sign for the weight limit on it's roads. Wood County will be doing their posting beginning March 17th.
 - **Crime Stoppers:** Supervisor Arne Nystrom was not present to present Crime Stopper issues
 - **Airport Commission:** Supervisor Nystrom was not present to present Airport Commission issues.
 - **Planning and Zoning:** Supervisor Fehrman stated that MSTC was granted their land use permit for the Police Science expansion. Planning Commission is reviewing Fireworks Ordinance and a Weed Ordinance.
 - **Building Inspector:** Building Inspector Lorelei Fuehrer stated that there have been 3 building permits issued this month. Last week attended a 3 day seminar on UDC code changes. Will be seeing extensive code changes in the fall and spring of next year.
13. **Other Public Input:** Bill Clendenning stated that the County newsletter that just came out was in favor of the renewable energy (wind). Dave Barth introduced himself to the board as a candidate for newly created district 17 and gave some background of his experience. Supervisor Fehrman mentioned that the new business in the Town of Grand Rapids, Graphic Express will be holding their ribbon cutting and grand opening on March 28 from 1-6 p.m. Supervisor Hellner mentioned that there will be a meeting of the Oversight Committee on the Hwy 54 project on March 27th at 10:00 a.m. in the City counsel chambers. Supervisor Hartjes stated that the Metro Deer Management has concluded for the year with a total of 81 deer harvested. A shoot for new hunters who wish to participate in next years

hunt will be held April 19th at Antler Archers. Clerk McLellan stated that the report for July-Dec 2007 was received from the South Wood County Humane Society with the following having occurred: 12 strays picked up by SWCHS, 12 strays brought to the SWCHS by residents and 14 surrenders from the township.

Motion (Hellner/ Hartjes) to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 7:28 p.m.

Minutes subject to board approval.

Respectfully submitted and approved
this _____ day of _____, 2008

Judy McLellan
Town Clerk